

DRAWING: FISH HOOKS & SPEARS

Harpoon

(After sketches in Slickpoo; Ray 1963)

Harpoons, fishing spears attached to a hemp line, were thrown from a fishing platform or canoe; when the point lodged in a fish it could be hauled in. Harpoons were used for salmon, sturgeon, seal and sea lion.

Leister

(After sketches in Slickpoo; H. Stewart; and Spinden)

This three-pronged fishing spear was sometimes used for night fishing, thrust into the water from torch-lighted canoes.

Harpoon (gig or spear)

(After sketches in Slickpoo; H. Stewart; and Ray 1963)

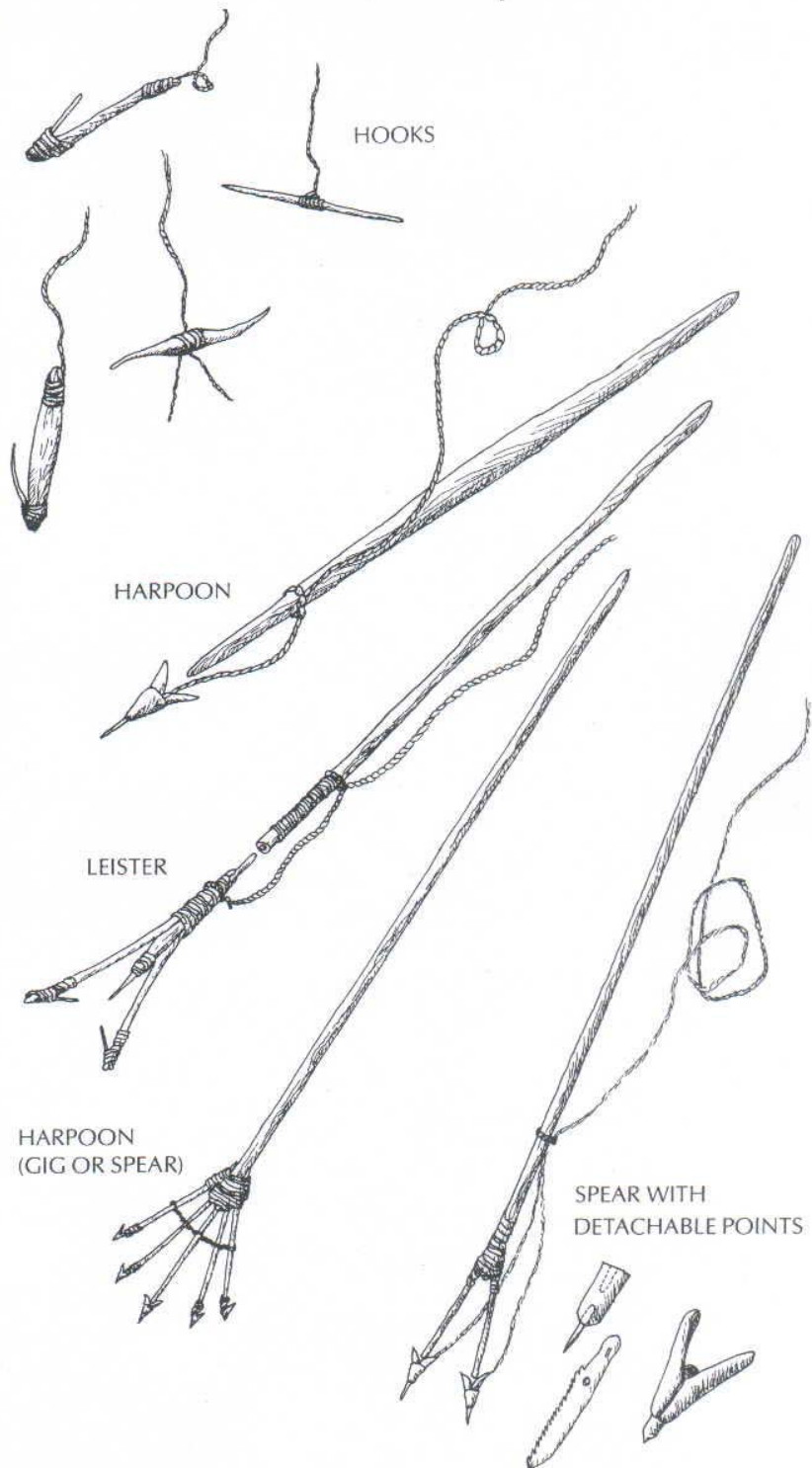
A multi-pronged spear (4-10 points) was used in shallow water to pin fish to the bottom until they were dead.

Spear with Detachable Points

(After sketches in Ray 1963; H. Stewart; Underhill; and a photograph in Sauter & Johnson)

Similarly to the harpoon, after one or both spear points lodged in a fish the fisherman holding the spear shaft could shore his catch. The first point illustrated here is typical of that used in the Klamath Lakes Area; the other two were common in the Coast, Lower Columbia and Plateau areas.

Fish Hooks & Spears



DRAWING: FISH NETS & TRAPS

Fishing Nets

(After sketches in Underhill; H. Stewart; and Spinden text)

A knotting technique was used to construct nets from Indian hemp or nettle fiber. In addition to those illustrated, many other types of nets were used, including seine and gill nets. Nets were cast from riverbanks, fishing platforms and canoes; the shape of each and their mesh size were designed for specific fishing conditions (falls, deep hole, weir trap, et cetera), as well as size of fish to be netted. Fish caught in this manner included minnows, smelt, trout and salmon.

Fish Trap used with Weir

(After photograph in Barrett)

Placed at the end of a weir, this woven trap's wide funnel encouraged fish to enter but made it difficult for them to swim back out.

Fish Traps

(After photograph in Barrett)

The traps pictured here are constructed of willow and/or roots in a basketry technique called twining, and used in shallow streams or with a weir. The long, narrow trap prevented fish from turning around to exit.

Fish Nets & Traps

